



**Airport Land Use Compatibility  
Ad Hoc Committee  
Presentation to City Council  
May 25, 2010**

# Bird Strike on Departing 757

Manchester Ringway International Airport - UK

29/4/07  
09:15 am

**Why are we here to discuss this topic today?**



**US Airways Flight #1549  
January 15, 2009**

## **Statistical Overview of Wildlife Related Damage and Growth Trends**

THE NORTH AMERICAN NON-MIGRATORY CANADA GOOSE POPULATION HAS BEEN GROWING AT A 7.3% COMPOUND ANNUAL GROWTH RATE FROM APPROXIMATELY 1 MILLION IN 1990 TO 4.0 MILLION IN 2008.

THE NON-MIGRATORY (URBAN RESIDENT) CANADA GOOSE POPULATION IN THE WICHITA AREA IS ESTIMATED TO BE 4,000.

MID-CONTINENT AIRPORT RECORDED 56 BIRD STRIKES IN THE 5 YEAR PERIOD BETWEEN 1999 AND 2003, AND 96 BIRD STRIKES BETWEEN 2003 AND JUNE OF 2008.

Charles Cope of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks stated on July 8, 2009, that the lowest increase recorded in local Canada geese populations has been 8% annually, and has been as high as 50% annually. National statistics indicate a 7% annual increase in migratory Canada geese.

## **Formation and Purpose of the Ad Hoc Working Group**

- The Airport Compatible Land Use Ad Hoc Working Group “Ad Hoc Working Group” was formed by the Mayor and County Commission Chair on **March 9, 2009**. The purpose of the Ad Hoc Working Group was to convene a group of City and County officials to work with wildlife officials to:
  - 1) study and review local wildlife habitat, species, populations, growth trends, and movement patterns, and the potential hazards to aeronautical activity around local airports;
  - 2) review existing land use and zoning codes;
  - 3) explore potential future airport compatible land use policy;
  - 4) review existing wildlife hazard management best management practices;
  - 5) explore potential new/expanded wildlife hazard management best management practices;
  - 6) make recommendations to executive management and elected policy boards.

## **Ad Hoc Working Group Members**

Councilman Paul Gray

Councilman Jeff Longwell

Commissioner Gwen Welshimer

Commissioner Karl Peterjohn

John Schlegel, MAPD

Dale Miller, MAPD

Dave Barber, MAPD

Scott Knebel, MAPD

Joe Lang, COW-Law

Joseph Pajor, COW-Public Works

Victor White, WAA

Brad Christopher, WAA

Dwight Greenlee, WAAB, Working Group Chairman

Bill Ward, WAAB

Kevin Myles, WAAB, Working Group Vice Chairman

Tom Pryor, WAAB

Charles Fletcher, WAAB

Devon McBride, USDA-WS

Robert Parnacott, Sedgwick County-Law

Glenn Wiltse, Sedgwick County-Code Enforcement

## **Chronology of Events**

- **October 23, 2008**, the MAPC voted to approve an application for permit of mining of fill material which would result in an approximately 31 acre open body of water beneath the final approach course to Runway 1R, 3.1 miles south of Mid-Continent Airport.
- **November 26, 2008**, the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard the Airport Authority's appeal of the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission's (MAPC) approval of a conditional use permit for mining of fill material south of Mid-Continent Airport. The BoCC voted (3-2 vote) to approve the application for permit of mining of fill material, denying the Authority's appeal and upholding the October 23<sup>rd</sup> MAPC decision. The BoCC directed MAPD staff to work with the Airport Authority to determine what changes in policy and practice might be recommended for its future consideration.
- **January 15, 2009**, US Airways A320 Flight 1549 "ditches" in Hudson River following a multiple Canada geese engine ingestion causing crippling damage to both engines.
- **February 9, 2009**, Ad Hoc Working Group meeting
- **March 9, 2009**, Ad Hoc Working Group meeting
- **May 11, 2009**, Ad Hoc Working Group meeting
- **July 8, 2009**, Ad Hoc Working Group meeting
- **August 19, 2009**, Ad Hoc Working Group meeting
- **November 17, 2009**, Frontier A320 Flight 820 declared emergency after experiencing extensive damage and loss of #2 engine following multiple goose strikes after departing Kansas City International Airport.

## **Recommendations of Ad Hoc Working Group**

1. Develop and initiate a community education program through existing media sources aimed at identifying the potential nuisances, risks and hazards associated with wildlife over-population within the City limits and airport environs.
2. Eliminate Canada geese food sources on City owned property, and on County owned property within five (5) miles of a public airport.
3. Management and oversight of landscaping development standards on City owned property, and on County owned property within five (5) miles of a public airport.
4. Habitat elimination, modification or mitigation where reasonable and practical on City owned property, and on County owned property within five (5) miles of a public airport.
5. Grass height management on City owned property, and on County owned property within five (5) miles of a public airport.



6. Data tracking and record keeping of habitat modification, wildlife hazing and harassment, and wildlife removal activities.
7. City and County departments/authorities/trusts to actively engage in “best management practices” of certain wildlife species (primarily Canada geese) on City and County owned park and recreation areas, golf courses, sports complexes, open spaces, and the Zoo.
8. City and County to engage the services of one (1) full-time trained wildlife technician through the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Wildlife Services for the purpose of assisting the City and County in wildlife management.
9. Study and consider the application of “goose proof” or resistant design standards to storm water detention ponds (that do not drain within 48 hours) on City owned property, and on County owned property within five (5) miles of a public airport.
10. City Law Department to review City Code Chapter 5.88 WEAPONS to determine if exceptions exist in the current Code for City and County employees and authorized contractors to use firearms, pellet guns and pyrotechnics under certain specific conditions for wildlife harassment, hazing and removal within the City limits.